

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/075,433

Examiner

John Juba, Jr.

Applicant(s)

SHAO, YANBIN

Art Unit

2872

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview conducted on May 25, 2005 in response to final rejection.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 12-14 and 18-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Brian Gustafson on May 25, 2005.

In the Claims:

Claims 4, 7, 9 – 11, and 15 – 17 were previously canceled.

Claims 1 – 3, 5, 6, 12 – 14, and 18 – 21 STAND as presented in Applicant's amendment of January 18, 2005.

Claim 8 now reads as set forth below:

8. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting light among a first input port, a first output port, and a second output port, the light having either a first polarization or a second polarization, the method comprising:

transmitting a light signal including a first and a second component having a first and second polarization, respectively, from the first input port onto a polarization beam splitter as light having both the first and the second polarization ;

directing the first component of light onto a first reflector;

reflecting the first component of light onto a first non-reciprocal device;

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changing the polarization of the first component of light from the first polarization to a second polarization;

directing the first component of light into a first output port solely as light of the second polarization ;

directing the second component of light onto a second non-reciprocal device;

maintaining the polarization of the second component of light as the second component passes through the second non-reciprocal device; and

directing the second component of light into the second output port substantially contemporaneously in time with the directing of the first component of light into the first output port solely as light of the second polarization .

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1 – 3, 5, 6, and 18 – 21 are allowable over the prior art for the reasons previously indicated with respect to the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 18. With regard to claims 8 and 12 – 14, the prior art, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest the method having the *combination* of steps, particularly wherein light is incident on the polarization beam splitter as light having both the first and second polarizations, and wherein light is directed into the first and second output ports solely as light having the second polarization, as now recited in claim 8. Thus, it is now clear that the light at the first and second output ports is solely of the second polarization.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Post-allowance papers should be mailed to **Box Issue Fee**. Post-allowance papers may also be faxed to correspondence branch in PUBs. The fax number is (703) 308-5083. The **PUBs customer service** number is (703) 305-8497.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Juba whose telephone number is (571) 272-2314. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Drew Dunn whose number is (571) 272-2312 and who can be reached on Mon.- Thu., 9 - 5.


JOHN JUBA, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2872

May 25, 2005